



Docket No.: 214586US3

RECEIVED

MAY 20 2002

GROUP 3600

INSTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
SHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/964,624

Applicants: Yukio HEMMI, et al.

Filing Date: September 28, 2001

For: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING WATER
QUALITY IN NUCLEAR REACTOR AND
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO WHICH THE
METHOD IS APPLIED

Group Art Unit: 3641

Examiner: PALABRICA, R.

OBLON
SPIVAK
McCLELLAND
MAIER
&
NEUSTADT
P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

GREGORY J. MAIER
(703) 413-3000
GMAIER@OBLON.COM

ROBERT T. POUS
(703) 413-3000
RPOUS@OBLON.COM

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of --0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any
ce exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted
nents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to
the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our
sit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition
eby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this
is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599

Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

Eckhard H. Kuesters
Registration No. 28,870

2850

413-3000 (phone)

413-2220 (fax)

\21s214586\214586-rest-cvr.doc

open
5-20-02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yukio HEMMI, et al. : EXAMINER: PALABRICA, R.

SERIAL NO: 09/964,624 :

FILED: SEPTEMBER 28, 2001 : GROUP: 3641

OR: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING
WATER QUALITY IN NUCLEAR
REACTOR AND NUCLEAR POWER
PLANT TO WHICH THE METHOD
IS APPLIED

RECEIVED

MAY 20 2002

GROUP 3600

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENTASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

IR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 16, 2002, Applicants elect with traverse Group I, Claims 1-4, drawn to a process of controlling water quality, classified in class 376, subclass 306. Applicants make this election based on the understanding that Applicants are not prejudiced against filing one or more divisional applications that cover the on-elected claims.

MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

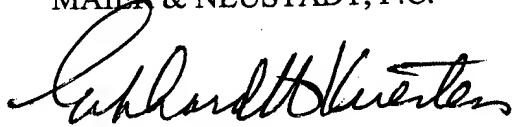
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner, whereas it would clearly be burdensome on Applicants to be

required to file, prosecute and maintain separate applications and patents on the identified.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-13 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No: 25,599
Robert T. Pous
Registration No: 42,325
Attorneys of Record

Eckhard H. Kuesters
Registration No. 28,870

Michael Carey
(703) 413-2372

22850
Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
GJM/RTP/JD:ys
I:\atty\Jd21s\214586\214586-rest.doc